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Sam Brownback, Governor

## MEMORANDUM

**DATE** June 14, 2017

**TO** Hospital Administrators  
Emergency Room Personnel

**FROM** Investigation Division

**SUBJECT** Hospital Reporting of Fireworks Injuries

Summer is here, kids are out of school, and Independence Day celebrations are right around the corner. On behalf of the Office of the State Fire Marshal, we are asking each hospital to participate in completing a Fireworks Injury Survey when appropriate. This data collection helps our office identify specific problems with fireworks and enables us to initiate efforts to decrease the number and severity of injuries and lives lost within Kansas due to fireworks.

Please read the survey carefully and record all possible information pertaining to the injuries you treat. If your facility does not treat any fireworks-related injuries, please check the "No Injuries" block at the bottom of the survey. This year we have a fillable form on our website you may use to submit the survey. It is located at [www.firemarshal.ks.gov/information-on/fireworks-industry/fireworks-injury-report](http://www.firemarshal.ks.gov/information-on/fireworks-industry/fireworks-injury-report). Closer to the 4<sup>th</sup>, there will be a quick link (exploding firecracker graphic) on our homepage that will take you directly to the form. However, if you prefer to download the survey form from our website it can be found at [www.firemarshal.ks.gov/formzone](http://www.firemarshal.ks.gov/formzone).

Remember, this voluntary survey is in addition to the Kansas Burn Injury Reports required by Kansas statute. If you have questions, please contact the Investigations Division at (785) 296-8984.

Please return completed surveys by July 31, 2017, to:

Office of the State Fire Marshal  
ATTN: Investigation Division  
800 SW Jackson St, Suite 104  
Topeka KS 66612  
Fax: (785) 368-6559  
[Carolyn.Lowry@ks.gov](mailto:Carolyn.Lowry@ks.gov)

Also enclosed are **Tips on Fireworks Safety**.



## **FIREWORKS SAFETY TIPS**

- ◆ Always read and follow label instructions.
- ◆ Always purchase high quality fireworks from a reliable, legitimate source.
- ◆ Alcohol and fireworks do not mix. Have a “designated shooter.”
- ◆ Never give fireworks to small children.
- ◆ Adults should always supervise use of fireworks by older children.
- ◆ Always wear eye protection when lighting fireworks.
- ◆ Never ignite fireworks indoors. Make sure your outdoor area is safe for firework use.
- ◆ Never point or throw fireworks at a person, building, or animal.
- ◆ Have a source of water handy, in case of fire.
- ◆ Never shoot fireworks in metal or glass containers.
- ◆ Light only one firework at a time.
- ◆ Never attempt to re-light malfunctioning fireworks.
- ◆ When lighting fireworks, never position any part of your body over them.
- ◆ Never carry fireworks in your pocket.
- ◆ Store fireworks in a cool, dry place.
- ◆ Never experiment with homemade fireworks. They are dangerous and illegal.
- ◆ Bottle rockets and other skyrockets that are mounted on a stick or wire are illegal.
- ◆ It is illegal to shoot fireworks on or under a vehicle, on any public roadway, within 50 feet of a fireworks stand or where fireworks are stored, and gas stations or any place liquid gas – including propane – is stored.